IMPROVING OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION PROTECTION IN NPPS (RAS/9/022) I1

New

MODEL PROJECT

CORE FINANCING

YEAR	Experts		Group Activity	Equipment	Fellowships		Scientific Visits		Group Training	Sub-Contracts	Misc. Comp.	TOTAL
	m/d	US $	US $	US $	m/d	US $	m/d	US $	US $	US $	US $	US $
1999	1/26	27,440	115,000	0	0/0	0	0/0	0	0	0	0	142,440
2000	5/4	79,310	100,000	0	0/0	0	0/0	0	0	0	0	179,310
2001	1/26	30,240	70,000	0	0/0	0	0/0	0	0	0	0	100,240
2002	1/26	31,640	90,000	0	0/0	0	0/0	0	0	0	0	121,640

First Year Approved: 1999

OBJECTIVES: To improve the implementation of the optimization principle in NPPs in China, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea in accordance with the International Basic Safety Standards (IAEA Safety Series 115) published in 1996, by facilitating the exchange of experience and ensuring the dissemination of an ALARA culture and the practical use of ALARA tools; to assist participating Member States in identifying and implementing the measures needed to reduce occupational radiation exposure.

BACKGROUND: Based on information on the status of radiation protection and of implementation of the optimization principle (ALARA) from OSART missions and national project proposals, and also taking into account the Agency co-sponsorship of the Information System on Occupational Exposure (ISOE), a regional Model Project on improving occupational radiation protection in NPPs in the Asian region is proposed.

PROJECT PLAN: The project will cover management of occupational radiation exposure during maintenance outages; information exchange on good practices; training for plant managers and regulatory authorities focused on ALARA awareness; syllabus development for ALARA training; specific dose reduction problems; and dose monitoring techniques. The above activities will be achieved through regional workshops, national workshops, technical visits, and expert missions. The project strategy is to involve the regulatory authorities, the managers of utilities, and the technical support organizations in the target countries so that there is a commitment on a national level by the end user personnel and the authorities. It is essential that concerned personnel attend the regional workshops, and that the countries then hold their respective national workshops to transfer the information and experience as extensively as possible.

NATIONAL COMMITMENT: The participating countries - China, the Republic of Korea and Pakistan - will provide and ensure participation of relevant responsible personnel and will work to decrease occupational radiation exposure.

AGENCY INPUT: Experts to participate in regional and national workshops, and training courses on the improvement of ALARA.

PROJECT IMPACT: The participating countries will achieve a reduction in the collective dose to workers in NPPs through ALARA planning; minimize individual dose distributions (e.g. number of workers exceeding an annual dose of 20 mSv, dose distributions for big tasks); make available task (job) specific dose information; acquire more trained people; initiate actions by NPPs, regulatory authorities and technical support organizations to implement ALARA; and benefit from a harmonized regional training syllabus for ALARA. The project will span four years (1999-2002). However, the impact should be visible well before the end of 2000, by which time it is expected that, through increased collaboration between the target countries, there will already be a measurable reduction in occupational dose exposure. Through better appreciation of the participants' problems and limitations, the 2001-2002 project phase should produce a harmonized common syllabus for training in ALARA. The syllabus could eventually also find use in other regions.